

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

COUNTRY USSR (Black Sea)/Rumania REPORT [REDACTED]

SUBJECT 1. Merchant and Naval Vessels Observed in the Kerch Strait and in Zhdanov 2. Channels and Minefields Outside Sulina DATE DISTR. 15 January 1956 25X1 NO. PAGES 1 REFERENCES [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1

PLACE & DATE ACQ [REDACTED] 25X1

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. [REDACTED] observations made in the Kerch Strait and in Zhdanov and a two-page report giving the coordinates of the safe channel and minefields on the approach to Sulina, Rumania [REDACTED] 25X1
2. The only naval vessel sighted was a flush-deck vessel with a single tripod mast [REDACTED] in the Kerch Strait. About 15 jet fighters and a large bomber [no further description] were observed at Yenikale Airfield. Two or three small vessels were in the repair yard at Zhdanov and several merchant vessels were observed loading coal. [REDACTED] 25X1

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STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC				
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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SUBJECT: BLACK SEA. MINE FIELDS. SWEEP CHANNELS.

Rumana

Approach to Sulina - Breadth from Point 1 to Point 2 is 1.2 miles and then narrows to one mile. The center line connects the following positions:

I Kilinsk Mouth	45 15' 48" N
	29 47' 54" E
II Sulina B. Spar	45 09' 30" N
	29 46' 18" E

Secret course through ~~the~~ danger area No. 47

From point II, Sulina B. Spar, co-ordinates given above, on course 191 degrees as far as the southern tip of the mine field. The breadth of the swept channel is 1.4 miles (about 1,300 meters on the west and on the east sides of course 191 degrees true beginning at point II.

this course is followed by naval vessels of the Communist Orbit.

Danger area No. 46:

44 47' 00 N	29 30' 00 E
44 47' 00 N	29 37' 18 E
44 41' 42 N	29 37' 18" E
44 40' 48" N	29 30' 00 E

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The southeast corner of the minefield described by the above
coordinates is clear of mines

southeastern edge of this field, bounded as follows:

44 47' 00" N	29 30' 00" E
44 47' 00" N	29 37' 18" E
44 40' 48" N	29 30' 00" E
44 41' 20" N	29 33' 50" E
44 44' 30" N	29 37' 18" E

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SUBJECT: USSR. Port of Zhdanov - Kerch Strait

INFORMATION OBTAINED ON PASSAGE

1) Naval vessels met

[redacted] in Kerch Strait,
a naval unit headed for Kamish Burunsk Bay on a northwesterly course.

Funnels: one, slightly raked aft and very close to the bridge.

Length: 60 to 70 meters; freeboard about six feet.

Masts : one tripod which takes up all the space between the
bridge and funnel.

Silhouette: continuous deck; raked bow; transom stern.

Armament: one enclosed gun forward; machine gun on after housing
at 4 or 5 meters from funnel; torpedo tubes not seen.

Other features: light gray paint; green flag with white square.

2) Yenikale Airfield

[redacted] About 15 jet fighters and a large bomber were observed on
the field while ship was passing by.

3) Presumed Industrial Area

[redacted] Dense columns of yellowish smoke were observed eastward of
Cape Khroni, as the ship entered the Sea of Azov.

4) Merchant traffic

[redacted] Soviet oil tankers were met with frequency on the inbound and
outbound track in the Black Sea. No Soviet dry cargo ships were seen.

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B) USSR. Port of Zhdanov

1) Inspection party; checks; seals; passes; liberty

Police and Customs officers conducted the inspection superficially and quickly. Only monopoly goods were sealed. The crew was checked individually and passes were issued for all to visit the city from morning until 0200 hours.

2) Merchant traffic

The following ships ~~arrived~~ came in to load coal:

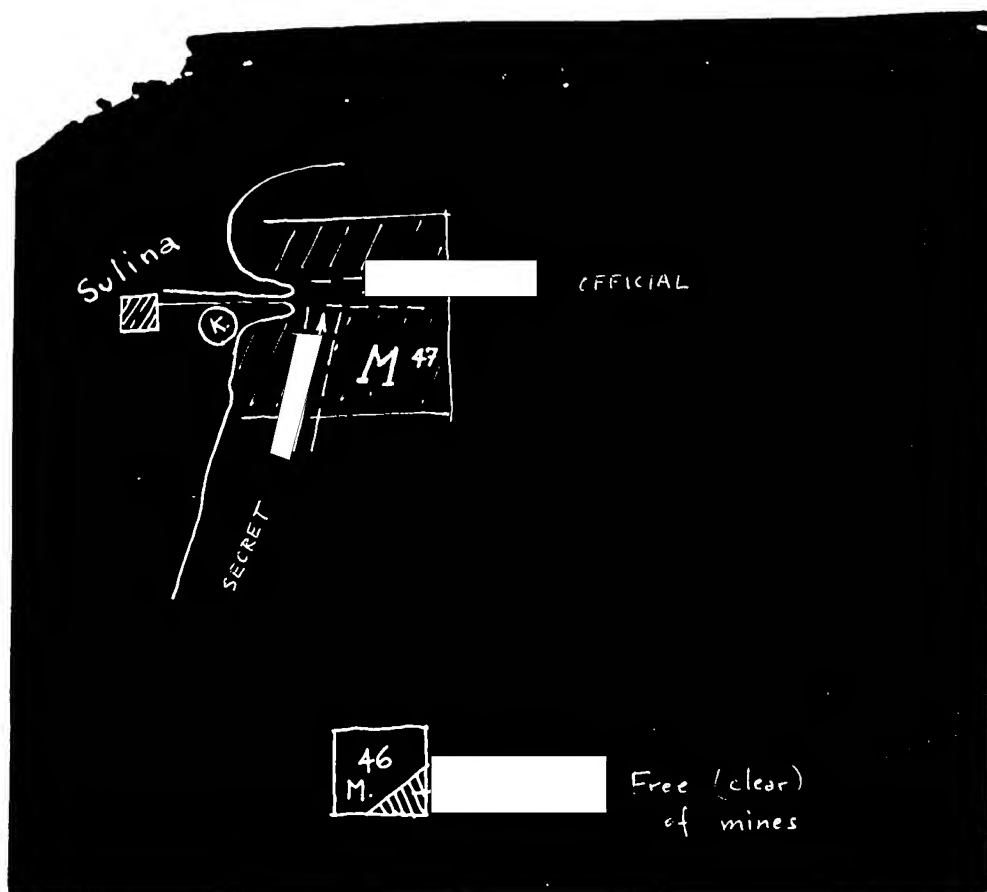
Vraniza, a small and old Yugoslav ship;

some Soviet ships.

3) Repair Yard

Two or three small motorships were in the repair area. They were Soviet, of recent construction, and displaced 1,000 tons each; minor repairs were being done to their hulls, and one was immersed in the floating drydock.

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